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HIST 101 Early Modern Europe

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History of Early Modern Europe¹, Summer I, 2020, online²
Queens College, HIST 101-01 (5620), 3 credits
Instructor: Professor Billado
Instructor email: tracey.billado@qc.cuny.edu³
Live office hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. and by
appointment through Blackboard Collaborate Ultra



Abraham Ortelius, *Map of Europe*, 1595

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces the major social, intellectual, political, religious, and cultural trends of Europe during the early modern period. It traces the cultural movement of the Renaissance, European explorations in the New World, the breakup of Latin Christendom through the Protestant Reformation and Religious Wars, the creation of a world economy and middle classes, political revolutions, the growth of the state, and the French Revolution. We will read and analyze treatises, letters, memoirs, laws, art, and poetry in their historical contexts, as well as scholarship written by historians using such sources. The class emphasizes the ways in which all these sources contribute to our understanding of the past.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will 1) demonstrate familiarity with the history and historical geography of early modern Europe (ca. 1350 to ca. 1804); 2) acquire practice in historical research by learning to read, analyze, discuss, and write about primary sources as the building blocks of our knowledge about the past; 3) improve critical thinking and expository writing skills through assignments based on historical primary and secondary sources.

REQUIRED TEXTS: You do not need to purchase any textbooks for this course. The required readings are all available either on Blackboard or through the Queens College library.⁴

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² This syllabus is subject to change. Revisions will be posted and announced through Blackboard.

³ When you email, include the course number and name in the email's subject heading. I will reply to email within 36 hours, Monday-Friday.

⁴ For help in adding OER/ZTC resources to this syllabus, I thank Dr. Leila Walker, the Emerging Technologies and Digital Scholarship Librarian at Rosenthal Library, Queens College.

CUNY POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion. In this class, any portion of any assignment that closely resembles material found in print, on the internet, or in an essay by another author will be considered plagiarism and receive a zero. Plagiarism will be reported to the QC Academic Integrity Officer. Plagiarism is likely to result in an F for the course, and may result in expulsion from the college. Read more here: <https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/legal-affairs/policies-procedures/academic-integrity-policy/>.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should register with and provide documentation to the Office of Special Services, Frese Hall 111. The Office of Special Services will provide a letter for you to give your professors indicating the need for accommodation and the nature of it. This should be done during the first week of class. For information about services available to Queens College students, contact the Office of Special Services (718-997-5870) or visit their website: <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/StudentLife/services/specialserv/Pages/default.aspx?>

OFFICE HOURS: My office hours are for you! I hold regular office hours for class through Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (see the top of the syllabus for times and see below for information about Blackboard). You do not need to make an appointment to stop by. Login during office hours if you have any questions about the class, this syllabus, or any readings, assignments, or lectures.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

MAP QUIZZES (5 points each for a total of 15 points): It is impossible to explore any society intelligently without an understanding of its geography. Therefore, you must complete three map quizzes. These quizzes will be taken through online map quiz games. You will play the quiz game online, screenshot your results, and submit them through Blackboard.

PARTICIPATION (5 points each for a total of 35 points): You will earn your participation grade by taking part in online discussion of the assigned readings and other course materials. This requires 1) carefully completing your reading assignments, 2) preparing answers to questions about those reading assignments, 3) contributing those thoughts about the readings to our class discussion boards, and 4) responding to your classmates' contributions. Note: you are not necessarily expected to understand everything before you post to the discussion boards, so there should be no shame in admitting to being confused by one of the readings. If there is something in the readings that you do not understand, bring your question to the discussion board! See the rubric on Blackboard for how discussion board posts will be graded.

TAKE HOME EXAM ESSAYS (15 points each for a total of 30 points): For your midterm and finals, you will write a short essay of ca. 1500-1800 words (approximately five to six double-spaced pages each) for each exam using questions and detailed directions posted on Blackboard at least a week before essays are due. Papers are due on Blackboard.

FILM RESPONSES (5 points each for a total of 20 points): There will be four films available to watch through the library's subscriptions to the Kanopy and Swank services. For each film you will find a film guide on Blackboard and a set of questions to respond to in the Blackboard discussion forum.

SCHEDULE⁵ of TOPICS, READINGS,⁶ and ACTIVITIES

- 6/1-6/2: UNIT ONE: ORIENTATION and INTRODUCTION**
- Watch: + Welcome and orientation video (Bb)
- Read: + Syllabus (Bb)
- Activity: + Flipgrid introductory video (Flipgrid / directions in Bb)
- Read: + ARNOLD, *History: A Very Short Introduction*, Ch. 1 (Bb)
- Write: + Questions on Arnold due 6/1 (Bb)
- Watch: + Introduction: What is Early Modern Europe? (Bb)
- Read: + Handout: On primary and secondary sources/primary source analysis worksheet (Bb)
- Read: + Pico della Mirandola, *Oration on the Dignity of Man*, excerpts (Bb)⁷
- View: + Image: Titian, *Equestrian Portrait of Charles V* (Bb)
- Write: + Primary Source Analysis Worksheets on Pico and Titian due 6/2 (Bb)
- Read: + Christopher Brooks, *Western Civilization: A Concise History*, vol. 2, chapters 2 & 3 (Bb)⁸
- Write: + Discussion board #1 due 6/2 (Bb)
- 6/3: UNIT TWO: WORLDS OLD and NEW**
- Watch: + Your classmates' Flipgrid video introductions (Flipgrid / directions on Bb)
- Watch: + Politics & Society in Late Medieval Europe (Bb)
- Watch: + Renaissances and New Worlds (Bb)
- Read: + Christopher Brooks, *Western Civilization: A Concise History*, vol. 2, chapters 4 & 5 (Bb)
- Read: + Primary source reader, pages 1-11 (Bb)
- Write: + Discussion Board #2 due 6/3 (Bb)
- Quiz game: + Map quiz #1 due 6/3 (Bb)
- 6/4: UNIT THREE: THE END OF LATIN CHRISTENDOM**
- Watch: + The Protestant Reformation, 1517-1555 (Bb)
- Watch: + The Wars of Religion, 1555-1648 (Bb)
- Read: + Christopher Brooks, *Western Civilization: A Concise History*, vol. 2, chapters 6 & 7 (Bb)
- Read: + Primary source reader, pages 12-22 (Bb)
- Write: + Discussion Board #3 due 6/4 (Bb)
- Quiz game: + Map quiz #2 due 6/4 (Bb)
- Read: + Handouts: Paper #1 questions and directions & How to write a good history essay (Bb)
- 6/8-6/9: UNIT FOUR: EUROPE AND ITS "OTHERS"**
- Watch: + Early Modern Witch Hunts (Bb)
- Watch: + A Persecuting Society? (Bb)
- Read: + Primary source reader, pages 23-33 (Bb)
- Write: + Discussion Board #4 due 6/8 (Bb)
- Watch: + *The Witch* (film on Swank service through the library, directions on Bb)
- Write: + Film response #1 due 6/9: *The Witch* (Bb)
- 6/10: Midterm essay due on Blackboard at 11:59 p.m.**

⁵ All activities are listed on the dates when they are due.

⁶ "Bb"=material or assignment on Blackboard.

⁷ This and all other sources in our Primary Source Reader are taken from five online sources: the [Internet Modern Sourcebook](#), [Eurodocs](#), [Hanover College Historical Texts](#), [Early Modern Resources](#), and [Stanford History Assessments of Thinking](#).

⁸ This textbook is an Open Educational Resource. I have posted it on our Blackboard site, but you can also read it and the two other volumes in its series by searching the Queens College library catalog.

* 2:00 p.m.: Optional virtual viewing/discussion on Blackboard Collaborate Ultra of early modern Dutch art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

6/11-6/15: UNIT FIVE: THE SEARCH FOR ORDER IN THE WAKE OF RELIGIOUS WAR

- Watch: + *The Return of Martin Guerre* (film on Kanopy service through the library, directions on Bb)
- Write: + Film response #2 due 6/11: *The Return of Martin Guerre* (Bb)
- Watch: + Revolutions in Science (Bb)
- Watch: + Constitutionalisms (Bb)
- Watch: + Absolutisms (Bb)
- Read: + Christopher Brooks, *Western Civilization: A Concise History*, vol. 2, chapters 8 & 10 (Bb)
- Read: + Primary source reader, pages 34-44 (Bb)
- Write: + Discussion Board #5 due 6/15 (Bb)
- Read: + Handout: How to read an article (Bb)

6/16: UNIT SIX: THE “GENERAL CRISIS” OF THE 17th CENTURY

- Read: + Geoffrey Parker, “Crisis and Catastrophe: The Global Crises of the Seventeenth Century Reconsidered,” *The American Historical Review* 113, no. 4 (Oct 2008): 1053-1079.
(instructions to download this article from the QC library on Bb)
- Write: + Discussion Board #6 due 6/16 (Bb)
- Read: + Handout: Paper #2 questions and directions (Bb)

6/17-6/18: UNIT SEVEN: THE 18th-CENTURY ATLANTIC WORLD

- Quiz game: + Map quiz #3 due 6/17 (Bb)
- Watch: + A Global Economy (Bb)
- Watch: + Enlightenment (Bb)
- Watch: + Enlightenment’s Dark Side (Bb)
- Listen: + Inside the Slave Ship (Bb)
- Read: + Christopher Brooks, *Western Civilization: A Concise History*, vol. 2, chapters 9 & 11 (Bb)
- Read: + Primary source reader, pages 45-55 (Bb)
- Write: + Discussion Board #7 due 6/17 (Bb)
- Watch: + *The Mission* (film on Swank service through the library, directions on Bb)
- Assignment: + Film response #3 due 6/18: *The Mission* (Bb)

6/22-6/23 UNIT EIGHT: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION and its AFTERMATH

- Watch: + The French Revolution, 1789-1792 (Bb)
- Watch: + The French Revolution, 1789-1989 (Bb)
- Read: + Christopher Brooks, *Western Civilization: A Concise History*, vol. 2, chapters 12 & 13 (Bb)
- Read: + Primary source reader, pages 56-76 (Bb)
- Write: + Discussion Board #8 due 6/22 (Bb)
- Watch: + *Marie Antoinette* (film on Swank service through the library, directions on Bb)
- Write: + Film response #4 due 6/23: *Marie Antoinette* (Bb)

6/24: Final essay due on Blackboard by 11:59 p.m.



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